

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

DEC 0 6 2016

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: WC-15J

CERTIFIED MAIL 7009 1680 0000 7635 8910 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Dustin Anderson, Town Manager Munster Town Hall 1005 Ridge Rd. Munster, IN 46321

Subject: Wet Weather/Sanitary Sewer System Information Request

Issued Pursuant to Section 308(a) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)

Docket No. V-W-17-308-02

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Protecting water quality is a high priority of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Pollutants such as bacteria discharged to waterways from sewer overflows contribute to poor water quality and impairment of uses of those waterways. As authorized by the Clean Water Act (CWA), the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States.

The enclosed Information Request seeks information related to the operation and maintenance of the Town of Munster's sewer collection system that collects and conveys sewage to the Hammond Sanitary District wastewater treatment plant including information about sewer overflows that may have left the collection system prior to receiving required treatment.

EPA is authorized under Section 308(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a), to require reports and other information necessary to carry out the purpose of the CWA. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 308(a) of the CWA, you are directed to provide EPA with the information requested in the enclosure.

In accordance with Section V, Paragraph 2 of the Information Request, you must include with your response a statement certifying that all information you submit is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief using the certification language provided in that paragraph. Any questions that do not directly relate to your municipality's sanitary sewer system operations can be addressed with "not applicable" and a brief explanation.

Please exercise care to assure that responses are complete and accurate because Section 309(c)(2) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(c)(2), imposes criminal penalties where false information is knowingly provided to EPA.

You must submit a written response with the information requested in the enclosure within 30 days of receipt of this request to:

Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch (WC-15J) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590 Attention: John Jurevis, Environmental Engineer

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact John Jurevis of my staff at (312) 886-1446 or jurevis.john@epa.gov, or your legal counsel may contact Nicole Cantello, Associate Regional Counsel, at (312) 886-2870 or cantello.nicole@epa.gov.

Sincerely.

Patrick F. Kuefler

Chief, Water Enforcement and Compliance
Assurance Branch

Enclosure

cc: Mark Stanifer, IDEM, w/enclosure (via email)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 5

IN THE MATTER OF:) Docket No. V-W-17-308-02
THE TOWN OF MUNSTER, INDIANA) Proceeding under Section 308(a) of the Clean Water Act, as amended,
) 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a)

INFORMATION REQUEST

I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing this Information Request to the Town of Munster (You or you) pursuant to the authority vested in the Administrator of EPA by Section 308(a) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a). The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Regional Administrator of EPA, Region 5, who has re-delegated this authority to the Director of the Water Division, who has re-delegated this authority to the Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch Chief.

II. INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. You must respond to this Information Request within 30 calendar days of your receipt. Submission instructions are in Section V of this Information Request.
- 2. You must respond separately to each of the requests. Where a "yes" or "no" answer is requested, you may provide additional information, if desired. Precede each answer with the number of the request to which it corresponds. For each document produced in response to this Information Request, indicate on the document, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the request to which it corresponds.
- 3. If you do not have documents responsive to a particular request, state in your written response that you do not have responsive documents.
- 4. You must keep the reports and all records reviewed or generated in the course of responding to this Information Request until EPA informs you in writing that you are no longer required to keep the reports and records, or for three years, whichever is sooner.

HL DEFINITIONS

- 1. "Backup" or "Building/Property Backup" shall mean any release of wastewater to public or private property that is caused by Blockages or other conditions in the Sanitary Sewer System. Such releases can include, but are not limited to, those that occur in basements.
- 2. "Blockage" shall mean the partial or complete interruption of flow as a result of some obstruction in any portion of the Sanitary Sewer System.
- 3. "Bypass," as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 122.41(m), shall mean the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
- 4. "Collection System" shall mean all portions of your sewer system that collect and convey sanitary and/or combined sewage for treatment to the Hammond Sanitary District WWTP. The Collection System, for purposes of this Information Request, does not refer to a separate storm sewer system.
- 5. "Combined Sewer System(s)" shall mean all portions of your sewer system designed to convey municipal sewage (domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater) and stormwater through a single-pipe system to the wastewater treatment plant or to combined sewer outfalls.
- 6. "Day" or "days" shall mean a calendar day or calendar days. In computing any period of time under this Information Request, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal or state holiday, the period shall run until the close of the next business day.
- 7. "Force Main" shall mean any pipe that carries wastewater under pressure from the discharge side of a pump to a point of gravity flow downstream.
- 8. "Gravity Sewer" shall mean a pipe that receives, contains, and conveys wastewater that is not normally under pressure and is intended to flow unassisted under the influence of gravity.
- 9. "Infiltration" shall mean water, other than wastewater, that enters your Sanitary Sewer System (including sewer service connections) from the ground through such means as defective pipes, pipe joints, connections, or manholes.
- 10. "Inflow" shall mean water, other than wastewater, that enters your Sanitary Sewer System from sources such as, but not limited to, roof leaders, cellar drains, yard drains, area drains, foundation drains, drains from springs and swampy areas, manhole covers, cross connections between storm sewers and sanitary sewers, catch basins, cooling towers, stormwater, surface runoff, street wash waters, or drainage.
- 11. "I/I" shall mean the total quantity of water from Infiltration and Inflow without distinguishing the source.

- 12. "Private Lateral" shall mean that portion of the Sanitary Sewer System(s), not owned by You, used to convey wastewater from a building or buildings to that portion of the Sanitary Sewer System(s) owned by you.
- 13. "Pump Station" shall mean facilities comprised of pumps or other equipment that lift wastewater to a higher hydraulic elevation, including all related electrical, mechanical, and structural systems necessary to the operation of that pumping station.
- 14. "Record" or "records" shall mean any recording of information in tangible form. It includes, but is not limited to, documents, memoranda, reports, letters, maps, graphs, charts, log books, notes, emails, computer files, computer printouts, and computer databases.
- 15. "Sanitary Sewer Overflow" or "SSO" shall mean an overflow, spill, diversion, or release of wastewater from or caused by your Sanitary Sewer System(s). This term shall include:
 (i) discharges to waters of the United States from the Sanitary Sewer System(s); and (ii) any release of wastewater from the Sanitary Sewer System(s) to public or private property that does not reach waters of the United States, including Backups.
- 16. "Sewer System(s)" shall mean all portions of your sewer system (including all pipes, Force Mains, Gravity Sewer segments, overflow structures, regulators, Pump Stations, manholes, and components thereof), designed and constructed to collect and convey only sewage, and not stormwater, from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants, and institutions for treatment at Hammond Sanitary District WWTP.
- 17. "Satellite Sewer System" shall mean a sewer Collection System that collects wastewaters from a legal entity other than you and delivers these wastewaters to your receiving sewer(s) or interceptor(s). Legal entities can include unincorporated areas. The Satellite Sewer System often, but not always, depends on a downstream authority for the treatment of these transferred wastewaters.
- 18. "Wastewater Treatment Plant(s)" or "WWTP(s)" shall mean the wastewater treatment plant(s) operated by Hammond Sanitary District (HSD), Hammond Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Number IN0023060, and located at 5143 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, Indiana and all components of such sewage treatment plant(s).
- 19. "You or you" for purposes of this Information Request refers to the Town of Munster and to any agents, employees, contractors, or other entities that performed work or acted in any way on behalf of, or at the direction of, the Town of Munster.

IV. REQUESTS

General Information

- 1. Provide the name and address of the location(s) where you maintain records relative to the operation and maintenance (O&M) of your Sanitary Sewer System(s).
- 2. Provide the name and title of the primary contact person(s) responsible for Sanitary Sewer System operation and maintenance. Also provide telephone, fax, and email contact information for such person(s).
- 3. Provide the name and title of all individuals who contributed responses to this Information Request. Also provide email contact information for such person(s).
- 4. Provide the following documents:
 - a. The latest NPDES permit, if applicable, issued to you for the Sewer System(s), including modifications and the associated permit application.
 - b. A map of the service area for your sewer system that identifies the following information:
 - i. Delineation of sewers owned, operated, and/or maintained by you
 - ii. Delineation of separate and combined sewer areas, if applicable
 - iii. Locations of SSOs reported in Question 17, chronic street flooding areas reported in Question 9, and chronic Backup areas reported in Question 29 (can be handwritten/drawn on map)
 - iv. Location of all permitted and/or non-permitted outfalls for your Sanitary Sewer System(s) and for your Combined Sewer System(s)

Collection System/Service Area

5.	Provide the following informa. Service area (in square mb. Population servedc. System inventory	nation for your Sanitary Sewer Syniles)	stem(s):
Miles of Gravity Sewer		Miles of Force Main	Number of Pump Stations
***************************************	d. Number of service conne Residential Industrial	ctions: Commercial Total	

e. Provide actual flows to HSD experienced for the previous 12 months expressed in million gallons per day (MGD). Cite the source or calculation method from which you obtained these values (e.g., flow meters, billing statements, etc.).

	Average Daily Wastewater Flow (MGD)	Source (or calculation method) of Average Daily Wastewater Flow Values	Average Daily Water Consumption (MGD)	Source (or calculation method) of Average Daily Water Consumption Values
Residential				
Commercial				
Industrial				
Other				
Total				

f.	Minimum wastewater flow experienced in a 24 hour period for the previous 12 months expressed in MGD:
g.	Is the Collection System a Combined Sewer System? YesNo
	If yes, what percent of the Collection System is combined?
h.	Provide infrastructure age distribution estimates for the Collection System.

Age	Gravity Sewer, miles	Force Mains, miles or feet	Number of Pump Stations
0 - 25 years			
26 - 50 years			
51 - 75 years			
> 76 years			

i. Provide pipe size distribution estimates for the Collection System.

Diameter in inches	Gravity Sewer, miles	Force Mains, miles or feet
8 inches or less		
9 - 18 inches		
19 - 36 inches		
> 36 inches		

6.	Indicate or describe a property Laterals (check one):	owner's responsit	onity for maintenance and repair of Private
	 a. At main line connection on b. From main line to property c. Beyond property line/cleaned d. Other Explain 	line or easement/oout	
7.	Describe any atypical local condesign, construction, operation,	ditions that may i and maintenance	of the Collection System.
8.	Identify whether you do the fol Sewer System(s) is adequate fo	=	ne if the capacity of the existing Sanitary s.
	a. Is flow metering performed Yes No	prior to allowing	new connections?
	b. Do you use a hydraulic mod connections? YesNo	del of the Sewer S	ystem(s) to predict the effects of new
			ased professional engineer indicating that the e adequate capacity to accommodate flow
9.	Are there portions of the Collection flooding, with sewage as a come Yes No		ce areas that have experienced street t five years?
•	If yes, describe and list all area	s that experience of	chronic street flooding.
<u>Se</u>	wer Systems/Sewer Use Ordinar	<u>nce</u>	
10.	. Does the Collection System rec Yes No	eeive flow from Se	ewer System communities?
	If yes, complete the following of attach a separate table.	chart. If additiona	l room is needed, continue on last page or
	Satellite Community Name	% Flow Contributed	Primary Contact Name and Contact Information (address, phone, email) for Satellite
	·		

	o you enter into written agreer ders, etc.) with Hammond Sar		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Ye	es No			
Sε	ease include all written agreer ewer Systems or HSD, includi- peration, and maintenance of y	ng, but not limite	d to, information reg	garding ownership,
If	yes, please answer the following	ing questions list	ed below:	
a.	Do the agreements extend the Yes No	ne requirements o	f HSD's sewer use o	ordinance (SUO) to you
Ъ.	Does HSD maintain the legal Collection System from you Yes No			low introduced into thei
c.	Is flow metered at locations Sewer System Yes No	where flow from	your Sewer System	directly enters HSD's
d.	Does HSD have the authorit I/I)? Yes No	y to surcharge yo	u for excessive flow	's (i.e., for excessive
e.	Has HSD exercised its authors I/I)? Yes No			
	If yes, identify when HSD to		escribe the action tal	
12. In	dicate whether the SUO conta			
a.	Inspection standards		-	Yes No
Ъ.	·			Yes No
c.	5	es s		Yes No
d.	Inflow prohibition			Yes No

13.		cate whether the SUO contains procedures and enforcement authorizing:	ity to con	trol the
	a. I	Fats, oils, and grease	Yes .	No
			Yes	
				No
				_ No
				No
			Yes	
<u>For</u>	ce M	ains		
14.	Iden	tify the total number of Force Main failures that have occurred in the	ne last fiv	e years.
15.		ide a description of the cause(s) of each Force Main failure that has years.	s occurre	d in the las
<u>Pur</u>	np S	tations .		
16.	Prov	ide the following information related to Pump Stations in your Col	lection S	ystem:
	a.	Total number of Pump Stations in the Collection System		
	b.	Number of Pump Stations with on-site pump capacity redundancy		
	c.	Number of Pump Stations with dry weather capacity limitations		
	d.	Number of Pump Stations with wet weather capacity limitations		
	e.	Number of Pump Station failures resulting in SSOs, or Backups, in the last five years		
	f.	Number of Pump Stations fed with electrical power from at least two independent electrical power grid feeds		
	g.	Number of Pump Stations with permanently installed backup power generators onsite that automatically activate when supplied power is interrupted		
	h.	Number of Pump Stations with backup power capability, but only with portable generators to be brought to the Pump Station site from other locations		
	i.	Number of Pump Stations with "pump around" capability (i.e., where Pump Station wet well can be evacuated and pumped with portable pump to nearby downstream Sewer System manhole)		

j.	Number of Pump Stations where conditions are monitored remotely and that trigger an alarm at a central monitoring location (e.g., at the WWTP or central public works center)	
Sanitar	y Sewer Overflows	
Incl	scribe each SSO that has occurred in the Collection System within the last fitude the following information for each SSO (create a supplemental table as the data below):	
b. c. d. e. f. g. h.	Date of the SSO Location of the SSO Estimated volume of the SSO (in gallons or million gallons (MG)) Cause of the SSO How You determined that the SSO occurred Depth of precipitation (in inches) received (if any) contributing to the SSO Peak WWTP flow (in MGD) on the day that the SSO occurred Disposition of the SSO (i.e., did the release reach a waterway, flow to storm areas, etc.) Actions taken to mitigate the SSO Whether or not You reported the SSO to the state environmental agency How soon after the SSO You reported it Whether any samples of the SSO discharge were collected and analyzed	n sewer, paved
	ntify the number of SSOs that originated from each of the following sources e years:	in the last
b. c. d. e. f.	Manholes Pump Stations Main and trunk sewers Lateral and branch sewers Structural Bypasses or relief points Force Mains Other, explain:	
	ntify the volume of SSOs expressed in gallons or MG from each of the followhe last five years:	wing sources
Ъ.	Pump Stations Force Mains Manholes Other, explain:	

20. Identify the number of SSOs caused by the following in the last five years:

a.	Debris buildup		
b.			
c.			-
d.		-	
e.			
f.	Fats, oil, and grease	-	<u>.</u>
g.		_	
h.			
i.	Mechanical or electronic failure	_	
j.	Pump failure and/or lack of backup (or duplex) pumps		·
j. k.	•	-	
K.	Other, explain:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	or the SSOs to waterways that are identified in response to Questrace waters that could affect:	tion 17, how r	nany were to
a. b. c.	Shellfish growing areas	etc.)	
22. W	hat equipment is available to you for responding to SSOs?		
23. D	escribe how you monitor SSO occurrence and frequency.		
fo	entify whether you have developed and adopted written procedulowing:		
a.	, <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	Yes	No
b.	Emergency response for SSOs	Yes	No
c.	1 0	Yes	No
d.	1 0		No
e.	Problem evaluation and resolution	Yes	No
25. D	escribe your procedure for reporting SSOs to the state environm	ental agency.	
Back	<u>ips</u>		
26. D	escribe how you document the occurrence of, and response to, I	Backups.	
27. In	dicate the month and year when you began to document Backup	os:	-
28. Pi	rovide the following information related to Backups:		
a. b.	The total amount of Backups that have occurred in the last five. The total amount of Backups that have occurred in the last five liable.		ich You were

29.		e there portions of the Collection System that have chronic problems with Backups? s No
	If y	res, list and describe each area and the reasons for chronic Backups in that area.
30.		evide a description of the sanitary sewer Backups that were listed in your response for estion 28a. Include the following information for each incident
	b.c.d.e.f.	Date; Location of the Backup; Reason that the Backup occurred; Weather conditions during the Backup. If excessive rainfall contributed to the Backup, please list the rainfall amount and the duration of the rainfall event; Whether the cause of the Backup was the responsibility of the affected private property owner or the operator of the municipal sewer system; Time to clear or fix the Backup; Actions taken to mitigate any future Backups.
Blo	ocka	<u>ges</u>
31.	De:	scribe how you document the occurrence of, and response to, Blockages.
32.		ovide the following information related to Blockages that have occurred in your Collection stem in each year for the last five years:
	ъ. с.	Number of Blockages for each year Average time to clear a Blockage (minutes) Number of Blockages resulting in SSOs and/or Backups for each year Total volume of SSOs (gallons or MG) that resulted from Blockages for each year
<u>Inf</u>	iltra	tion and Inflow
33.	Pro	ovide the following information for I/I in the Sanitary Sewer System(s):
	a.	Have you done an assessment to determine the extent of I/I? Yes No If yes, when? (mo/yr)
	b.	Has it been demonstrated that it is more cost effective to eliminate rather than treat I/I? Yes No
	c.	Have you performed a sewer system evaluation study (SSES), as defined in the U.S. EPA Handbook for Sewer System Evaluation and Rehabilitation (December 1975)? Yes No If yes, when? (mo/yr)
	d.	Have rehabilitation projects been prioritized for correcting I/I problems?

		Yes	No				
		If yes, how	far has the I/I elimination program progressed?				
	e. Do you or any of your Satellite Sewer System communities have a private reduction program? Yes No					private so	urce I/I
		If yes, desc					
<u>Ор</u>	erai	tion and Ma	intenance				
34.	pro Op (Ja	ogram, as de	<i>,</i>	Buide for Evaluating	Capacity, M ry Sewer Col	fanagemer llection Sy	nt,
35.	Describe the operation and maintenance (O&M) procedures you have in place to locate and eliminate problems in your Collection System that would cause or contribute to SSOs and Backups. These procedures can include, but are not limited to, grease control, root control, sewer cleaning, I/I evaluation, problem area targeting, downspout disconnection program, etc.						
36.	Indicate whether You have developed and adopted written procedures or instructions for the following:						
			system maintenance system capacity manage	ement		Yes Yes	_ No
37.	Does the Sewer System(s) experience chronic O&M problems that are attributed to design problems? Yes No						
	If yes, provide a brief explanation.						
38.	co		er System(s) experience ssues in the system?	chronic O&M probl	ems that are	the result	of
	If yes, provide a brief explanation.						
39.		you physices No	cally inspect all sanitary	system manholes on	a defined fr	equency?	

If yes, on what frequency: every months (e.g., every 36 months)
40. List the frequency of cleaning sewers and manhole basins for the following:
a. Largest sewers: everymonths (e.g., every 36 months)b. Smaller sewers: everymonths
41. Do you conduct internal smoke testing to evaluate the condition of the Collection System? Yes No
If yes, on what frequency? Every months (e.g., every 36 months)
42. Do you televise the sewers to evaluate the condition of the Collection System? Yes No
43. Do you operate an industrial pretreatment program approved by EPA or the State? Yes No
Wastewater User and Customer Complaints
44. Describe how you receive, document, and respond to citizen complaints regarding the Sewer System.
45. Provide the following information related to Sewer System user complaints:
a. Number of user complaints received each year for the last five yearsb. Number of user complaints received each year for the last five years that were your responsibility
c. Number of claims received and damages paid each year for the last five years

Financial Information

47. Provide the following information related to customer billing for use of your Sewer System:

46. Provide the number of public health or other warnings you issued that were attributed to wastewater each year for the last five years and the dates of each such warning.

- a. Current rate schedule for residential customers.
- b. Average annual bill for the typical residential household for each year for the last five years.
- c. Whether the residential rate is based on water consumption, a flat rate, or a combination of both water consumption and flat rate.
- d. Volume of water assumed to be used per household if residential rate based on a flat rate, whether entirely or partially.
- e. Month and year when the last wastewater and/or Sewer System related customer rate increase occurred.

- f. History of rate increases for the past 10 years.
- g. Information regarding proposed rate increases by you on customers of your sewer system over the next 5 years, if applicable.
- h. Information regarding proposed rate increases by HSD on you over the next 5 years for treatment and conveyance of wastewater, if applicable.
- i. All information developed by Munster to analyze the effect on Munster ratepayers of any rate increase demanded by HSD or any other entity.
- j. Any communications with HSD regarding an increase in customer billing for use of your sewer system.
- k. Process by which rate increases are approved (i.e., unilaterally by the public works department/wastewater or water utility/city/village; elected official(s) approval; voter referendum; etc.).
- 1. Process by which customers of Sewer System are billed (i.e., which department; by you or by HSD).
- 48. Provide the following information related to the revenue received from Sewer System user charges:
 - a. Total annual revenue received for each year for the last five years.
 - b. Percent of total annual revenue received used for long-term debt for each year for the last five years.
 - c. Percent of total annual revenue used for collection and conveyance of wastewater for each year for the last five years.
- 49. Provide the following information related to the revenue received from other sources (e.g., property tax, tap-in fees, etc.) used for O&M of your Sewer System:
 - a. Total annual revenue received for each year for the last five years.
 - b. Percent of total annual revenue used for long-term debt for each year for the last five years.
 - c. Percent of total annual revenue used for collection and conveyance of wastewater for each year for the last five years.
- 50. Provide your budget for the wastewater activity for the current year including proposed wastewater system capital improvements.
- 51. Provide the following fiscal information related to your Collection System for the most recent service year (identify which months you consider your service year):
 - a. O&M expenditure for your Collection System.
 - b. Annual depreciation for your Collection System.
 - c. Annual debt service (principal plus interest) for your Collection System.
- 52. Provide the total annual cost paid to HSD for wastewater related services for service years 2013, 2014, and 2015

- 53. Identify how you bill customers in your Sewer System service area for stormwater collection and management (e.g., separate stormwater utility fee, incorporation into sewer or wastewater bill, etc.).
- 54. If you utilize a stormwater utility fee or any other user fee that is different from the sewer or wastewater user charge, do You factor in acreage and permeability into the stormwater fee or bill?

If yes, please describe.

55. Do you recover all or a portion of the costs associated with the O&M of your storm sewer system from the user fees you collect from customers for wastewater related services?

If yes, what percentage? If less than 100%, indicated from where else you recover your storm sewer system O&M costs.

56. Are there portions of your Sanitary Sewer System service area that are not served by separate storm sewers?

If yes, please describe.

V. SUBMITTALS

1. Please submit your response to this Information Request within 45 days of your receipt of the Information Request to:

Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch (WC-15J) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590 Attention: John Jurevis, Environmental Engineer

2. You must submit all requested information under an authorized signature with the following certification:

I certify under penalty of law that this response and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person(s) who manage the system, or those person(s) directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of a fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

- 3. If you find at any time after submitting information to EPA that any portion of the submittal is false or incorrect, you must notify EPA immediately. Knowing submittal of false information to EPA in response to this Information Request may subject you to criminal prosecution under Section 309(c) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(c), and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and 1341.
- 4. You may not withhold information because you claim it is confidential. However, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, you may assert a claim of business confidentiality regarding any portion of the information submitted in response to this Information Request, as provided in 40 C.F.R. § 2.302(a)(2). The regulations provide that a person may assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information furnished to EPA when that person submits the information. The manner of asserting such claims is specified in 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Effluent data (as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 2.302(A)(2)) and information in NPDES permit applications is not entitled to confidential treatment. 40 C.F.R. § 122.7. Information subject to a business confidentiality claim is available to the public only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If you do not assert a claim of business confidentiality when you submit the information, EPA may make the information available to the public without further notice.
- 5. This Information Request is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.*, because it seeks collection of information from specific individuals or entities as part of an administrative action or investigation.
- 6. EPA may use the information submitted in response to this Information Request in an administrative, civil or criminal action.
- 7. Neither the issuance of this Information Request by EPA nor your compliance with this Information Request relieves you of liability for any penalty, fine, remedy or sanction authorized to be imposed pursuant to Section 309(b), (c), (d), or (g) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(b), (c), (d), or (g), including but not limited to those related to any violations addressed by this Information Request. EPA specifically reserves the right to seek any of the remedies specified in Section 309(b), (c), (d), or (g) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(b), (c), (d), or (g).
- 8. There can be significant civil or criminal penalties for failing to adequately respond to requests for information issued under Section 308(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a).
- 9. Please contact John Jurevis of my staff by telephone at (312) 886-1446, or via email at jurevis.john@epa.gov, if you have any questions about this Information Request.

Patrick F. Kuefler

Chief, Water Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5